

**A M E N D M E N T S   T O   T H E   C L A I M S**

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A gaming apparatus comprising:  
a processor operable to facilitate a wagering game;  
an input device in communication with the processor; and  
a computer readable medium in communication with the processor and  
storing instructions configured to direct the processor to perform a method  
comprising:  
determining a balance of funds for a player;  
receiving a signal indicating ~~determining~~ a wager amount selected by the  
player for placement on the wagering game by the player;  
~~verifying that the wager amount does not exceed the balance of funds;~~  
after receiving the signal indicating the wager amount selected by the player  
for placement on the wagering game by the player and before accepting the wager  
amount for the wagering game, determining, in addition to the verifying, whether  
that the wager amount selected is greater than a predetermined amount associated  
with a triggering condition for presenting a confirmation message to the player  
before accepting the wager amount, wherein the predetermined amount is distinct  
from a minimum wager amount that may be required to play the game;  
~~if the wager amount selected is not greater than the predetermined amount,~~  
~~accepting the wager amount; and~~  
~~if~~ in response to determining that the wager amount selected is greater than  
the predetermined amount, displaying a confirmation message, such that the wager  
amount selected is not accepted until at least the confirmation message is  
displayed;  
receiving a signal initiated by the player via the input device after displaying  
the confirmation message, the signal indicating that the player desires to place the  
wager amount after receiving the confirmation message; and

after receiving the signal indicating that the player desires to place the wager amount after receiving the confirmation message, accepting the wager amount and initiating play of the wagering game.

2. (Previously Presented) The gaming apparatus of claim 1, in which the game comprises a plurality of plays.

3. (Previously Presented) The gaming apparatus of claim 1, in which the game comprises a flat rate session.

4. (Previously Presented) The gaming apparatus of claim 1, in which the game comprises a prepaid session.

5. (Previously Presented) The gaming apparatus of claim 1, in which the wager amount selected corresponds to a plurality of plays.

6. (Previously Presented) The gaming apparatus of claim 1, in which the wager amount selected corresponds to a predetermined period of time.

7. (Previously Presented) The gaming apparatus of claim 1, in which the confirmation message comprises a confirmation screen.

8. (Previously Presented) The gaming apparatus of claim 7, in which the confirmation screen comprises at least one selectable location.

9 – 14. (CANCELLED)

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A gaming device comprising:  
a processor operable to facilitate a wagering game;  
a first input device in communication with the processor;  
a second input device in communication with the processor; and  
a computer readable medium in communication with the processor and  
storing instructions configured to direct the processor to perform a method  
comprising:  
receiving a request to initiate ~~play~~ a handle pull of the wagering game at the  
gaming device,  
wherein the request to initiate a handle pull comprises a game  
initiation signal generated by the first input device in response to a player  
actuating the first input device;  
after receiving the request to initiate the handle pull and before initiating the  
handle pull:  
determining a cost to play the wagering game,  
determining that the cost to play the wagering game is greater than a  
predetermined cost associated with a triggering condition for presenting  
confirmation information to the player,  
wherein the predetermined cost is distinct from a minimum  
wager amount required to play the game,  
determining whether to present confirmation information to [[a]] the  
player in response to determining that the cost to play the wagering game is  
greater than the predetermined cost[[:]].  
~~if confirmation information is to be presented to the player:~~  
determining confirmation information to present to the player[[:]].  
determining an available balance of the player for the wagering game,  
presenting the confirmation information to the player[[:]].

in which the confirmation information includes an indication of the cost to play the game as a percentage of the available balance, and receiving a signal initiated by the player via the second input device in response to the presenting of the confirmation information to the player, the signal indicating that the player confirms the confirmation information and desires to initiate the handle pull of the wagering game;

decrementing a credit balance associated with the player; and

after receiving the signal indicating that the player confirms the confirmation information, initiating play the handle pull of the wagering game at the gaming device[.,].

~~in which determining whether to present confirmation information to the player comprises:~~

~~determining a cost to play the game; and~~

~~determining whether the cost to play the game is greater than a predetermined cost, wherein the predetermined cost is distinct from a minimum wager amount required to play the game, and~~

~~in which the confirmation information includes an indication of the cost to play the game as a percentage of an available balance; and~~

~~if the confirmation information is not to be presented to the player, because the predetermined cost to play the game is not greater than a predetermined cost, initiating play of the wagering game without presenting the confirmation information to the player.~~

16 – 32. (CANCELLED)

33. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A non-transitory computer readable medium storing instructions configured to direct a processor to perform a method comprising:

determining a balance of funds for a player;  
receiving a signal indicating ~~determining~~ a wager amount selected by the player for placement on the wagering game by the player;  
~~verifying that the wager amount does not exceed the balance of funds;~~  
after receiving the signal indicating the wager amount selected by the player for placement on the wagering game by the player and before accepting the wager amount for the wagering game, ~~determining, in addition to the verifying, whether via a gaming device that~~ the wager amount selected is greater than a predetermined amount associated with a triggering condition for presenting a confirmation message to the player before accepting the wager amount, wherein the predetermined amount is distinct from a minimum wager amount that may be required to play the game;  
~~if in response to determining that~~ the wager amount selected is greater than the predetermined amount, displaying a confirmation message, such that the wager amount selected is not accepted until at least the confirmation message is displayed;  
receiving a signal initiated by the player via the input device after displaying the confirmation message, the signal indicating that the player desires to place the wager amount after receiving the confirmation message; and  
after receiving the signal indicating that the player desires to place the wager amount after receiving the confirmation message, accepting by the gaming device the wager amount and initiating play of the wagering game.

34. (CANCELLED)

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, in which the confirmation message includes a representation of the wager amount as a percentage of the balance of funds.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, in which the confirmation message includes an indication of the wager amount compared to the balance of funds.

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~further comprising: determining~~  
in which the confirmation message includes a representation of a ratio of the wager amount to the balance of funds.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 1, in which determining ~~whether~~ that the wager amount required is greater than a predetermined amount comprises:

determining an indication of the wager amount as a percentage of the balance of funds.

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, in which the predetermined amount corresponds to a predetermined ratio.

40. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 39, in which the predetermined ratio is not less than one half.

41 – 43. (CANCELLED)